

Policy – Regulatory examinations

March 2025

Objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) results policy

Purpose

This document sets out the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia's (the Board) policy on objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) results for candidates undertaking the Board's regulatory examinations.

This policy applies to all candidates who complete the clinical examination (OSCE).

Examination results

The clinical examination overall result is recorded as pass/fail.

To receive an outcome that is a pass, a candidate must:

- Pass station¹ one (1)
- Pass the division specific stations in the relevant division applied for (Chinese herbal medicine practitioner and/or acupuncture)
- Pass three (3) of the four (4) stations common to both divisions excluding station one (1)

A candidate who does not meet the above criteria will receive an overall fail result for the clinical examination.

Candidate feedback

Candidates who pass the clinical examination will be advised of the next steps in support of their application for registration in Australia.

Candidates who fail the clinical examination will be given a report that identifies the capability areas where they failed to demonstrate the level of knowledge and/or clinical skills and/or professional attributes necessary to practise as a Chinese medicine practitioner in Australia.

As per the Board's *Regulatory exam policy for repeat candidates or those applying for an additional division*, candidates may sit each Regulatory Examination up to five times for each division.

The Board and Ahpra recommend that candidates carefully consider the results of their previous examination(s) before deciding to repeat an examination.

¹ **Stations:** Multiple stations of different tasks relating to a clinical scenario or clinical skill demonstration are set up at the OSCE testing venue. All stations must be completed by a candidate on the same day. Exceptions to this may be given in circumstances where a candidate meets eligibility criteria under the Board's *Regulatory exam policy for repeat candidates or those applying for an additional division*.

Monitoring, evaluation and review

This policy will be reviewed from time to time as required. This will generally be at least every three years.

Definitions and abbreviations

Candidate refers to those who have been approved to sit the CMBA regulatory examinations.

Regulatory examinations may be used by the Board to:

- i. assess an overseas-qualified Chinese herbal medicine practitioner's or acupuncturist's suitability to qualify for registration in Australia, in circumstances where they are assessed as holding a qualification that is relevant but not substantially equivalent or based on similar competencies to an Australian Board-approved qualification,
- ii. assess a practitioner's competence to practice, in circumstances where they don't meet recency of practice or performance concerns have arisen.

Associated documents

[Regulatory examinations candidate handbook – Objective structured clinical examination](#)

[Regulatory exam policy for repeat candidates or those applying for an additional division](#)

Effective date

March 2025